

Bible Study: Session two: Believing God is who He say He Is

We will invite the Holy Spirit to ask us **three vital questions today**, prompted by those Christ prioritized with His disciples in Matthew 16:13-19. For our immediate purposes we will apply them to God the Father, keeping in mind Christ's own words: that the Father and He are one (John 10:30).

Question 1: Who do People say God is?

- a. Public opinion spans the spectrum from God is Nonexistent to God is the God of the Bible. 1 Peter 2:2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— We have to grow in the knowledge of God.
- b. Perhaps the most dangerously influential opinions are those held by scholars and intellectuals who teach a kind of "goal" but not the God of the Bible.
- c. All attempts to Define God cannot help but minimize him. If in our pursuit of greater knowledge God seems to have gotten smaller, we have been deceived.

Question 2: Who do You say God is? JESUS WANTS TO KNOW WHO DO YOU SAY I AM

- a. Great wisdom resides in taking an inventory of how we have developed our present perceptions of God. Keep in mind that faith that remains unchallenged ordinarily remains unchanged.
- b. Sometimes we may realize that we have created a God in man's own image who is not God at all.
- c. Matthew 16:18-20 could very well intimate that God entrusts greater Supernatural Empowerment to those who believe He is who He say is.

Matthew: 16: 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. WE WANT GOD TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO US... THROUGH HIS WORD AND WORKS AND THROUGH THE REVELATION HE GIVES US.... WHEN WE BELIEVE WE RECEIVE A SPIRITUAL EMPOWERMENT.

18 And I tell you, you are Peter,^[b] **PETER IN THE GREEK – PETROS – PIECE OR FRAGMENT OF A BIGGER ROCK...** and on this rock^[c] **I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. Jesus is the architect of the church it's not ours it's his....**

¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Did you know we had we have keys....there are four keys....

1. **His word is a Key....** *We have heard a man word is his bond... then it stand to reason God's word is His bond... His word is our passport to the other side... If you don't believe.... Let your partner walk away from you and you feeling rejected: see wont Psalm 46 comfort you.... God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.... Get in trouble.... Flip back to Psalm 23 the Lord is my Shephard I shall not want....*

Bible Study: Session two: Believing God is who He say He Is

2. **Pray is the 2nd key** *pray is to the soul is what air is to our lungs.... 2 Chronicles 7:14.... If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. We know him through communing with him in prayer....*
3. **Stewardship is the key...** *Malachi 3:10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.*
4. **The preacher:** *Romans 10:14-15¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed?^[a] And how are they to believe^[b] in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"*

Question 3: Who does **God say that He is?**

God reveals Himself two primary ways:

- a. His **WORD**. See Psalm 100:1-3.

*Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. ² Serve the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing. ³ **Know that the LORD is God.** It is he who made us, and we are his;^[a] we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.*

Lord – yahew -eloheh

He is a God who requires adoration, He's a God that requires praises... He is the God our creator... He is the God our provider

- b. His **WORKS**. See Psalm 145:1-6.

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. ² Every day I will bless you

*and praise your name forever and ever. ³ Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; his **Greatness is unsearchable.** ⁴ One generation shall extol your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts. ⁵ They will recount the glorious^[a] splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works I will meditate. ⁶ They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness.*

Close with a poem from Beth Moore....

He is Elohim, Creator, the Omnipotent who rules.

He's the Sovereign King of glory, and earth is His footstool.

He is the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End.

Bible Study: Session two: Believing God is who He say He Is

He sends forth lightning that later checks back in with Him.

He speaks worlds into [existence](#) and spins them out in space.
He gives orders to the morning and shows the dawn its place.
He prophesies the future; then orders it fulfilled.
He bears fruit from a landscape that man has never tilled.

He feeds the beasts of the field from the palm of His hand.
He watches while they bear their young; then teaches them to stand.
He gives the seas their boundaries and hides His creatures deep.
He teaches eagles [how to fly](#) and nest upon the steep.

He makes the clouds His chariot and rides on wings of wind.
He champions the victim and brings proud men to end.
He is Immanuel, God with us--come to earth through Christ.
He is the Kinsman-Redeemer, who paid the slave-man's price.

He is the King of kings, Lord of lords; and worthy is the Lamb!
He holds the keys to eternal life where the dead in Christ now stand.
He is enthroned between the cherubim; and great is His [reward](#).
The devil--His defeated foe; the weapon--His swift sword.

The [story](#) has a moral, so I'll hasten, lest you tire.
Whoever you perceived He is, you might aim a little higher!

Bible Study: Session two: Believing God is who He say He Is

Homework: Ask God to help you test your condition of faith to remove any obstacles of unbelief that stand in the way of more abundant, adventurous, and effective life. Then proceed to the test. Be honest this is between you and God, he already knows... Choose the answer that most closely matches your response.

A Test of Faith

1. I believe _____ of Scripture is actually God's Word.
 - a. all
 - b. most
 - c. some
 - d. little

2. I believe _____.
 - a. There is only one true God, the God of the Bible
 - b. the God of Hebrews and Christians is also the God of Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims, world religions
 - c. many gods and many ways provide a peaceful or happy life after death
 - d. little about a spiritual world involving God or gods

3. I believe _____.
 - a. Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God
 - b. Jesus Christ was a great prophet
 - c. Jesus Christ was a great teacher
 - d. Jesus Christ may be a mythical figure

4. I believe the four Gospels reveal a(n) _____ portrayal of Christ.
 - a. absolutely accurate
 - b. mostly accurate
 - c. partly accurate
 - d. questionable

5. I believe the New Testament portrayal of Christ's signs, wonders, and works is _____.
 - a. absolutely accurate
 - b. mostly accurate
 - c. partly accurate
 - d. questionable

6. I'm _____ convinced of God's love for me.
 - a. always
 - b. usually
 - c. sometimes
 - d. rarely

7. I believe the Jesus Christ of the Gospels is _____ today.
 - a. just as powerful and active
 - b. very powerful and active

Bible Study: Session two: Believing God is who He say He Is

- c. more watchful than active
- d. more distant and less likely to intervene

8. I have seen _____ firsthand evidences of a miracle of God.

- a. many
- b. some
- c. few
- d. no

9. I tend to _____ testimonies of modern-day miracles.

- a. at least favorably consider
- b. give a second thought to
- c. discount
- d. automatically disbelieve

10. I feel God _____ hears my prayers.

- a. always
- b. usually
- c. occasionally
- d. rarely

11. I _____ sense the activity of God in several other people I observe.

- a. constantly
- b. often
- c. occasionally
- d. rarely

12. I _____ believe God is active in my life.

- a. constantly
- b. often
- c. occasionally
- d. rarely

13. I believe God speaks through His Word, His Holy Spirit, human vessels, and circumstances to _____.

- a. anyone who is willing to listen
- b. most people who are willing to listen
- c. only those who are most obedient
- d. those in important spiritual positions

14. I _____ that I am forgiven for my past confessed sins.

- a. am thoroughly convinced
- b. am ordinarily confident
- c. am hopeful
- d. have difficulty accepting

Bible Study: Session two: Believing God is who He say He Is

15. I _____ that God has a specific, fruitful plan for every believer in Christ, including me.
- a. am thoroughly convinced
 - b. am ordinarily confident
 - c. am hopeful
 - d. have difficulty accepting
16. I feel that God has _____ in the past when I've exercised faith in Him.
- a. actively, affirmatively responded to me
 - b. faithfully revealed Himself to me, even if I didn't get what I asked
 - c. rarely seemed responsive to me
 - d. failed me
17. I am _____ to take my faith to a new level in Christ.
- a. very willing and ready
 - b. anxious but a little scared
 - c. scared half to death
 - d. presently unwilling
18. I _____ pray generic prayers because I don't want to be disappointed by God.
- a. rarely
 - b. occasionally
 - c. often
 - d. most commonly
19. I believe that God is willing, able, and pleased to redeem _____ in any life (including mine) and work it/them for His glory and the person's good.
- a. absolutely anything
 - b. many things
 - c. certain things
 - d. few things
20. When fear comes on me like a tidal wave, I tend most quickly to _____.
- a. recall Scripture and turn it into prayer
 - b. pray
 - c. call a friend to pray for me
 - d. panic

That wasn't too terribly painful, was it? Were you as honest as you could possibly be? My guess is that very few of us chose all a's or d's. Few of us always or never exercise faith. Occasionally, however, I wonder how I'm doing. Do you wonder the same about yourself? Though a test like this could never give us a perfectly accurate

Bible Study: Session two: Believing God is who He say He Is

estimation, it offers food for thought. Let's consider any indications the test might propose. Remember, our purpose is not to grade ourselves but to examine our faith. Our answers can tell us a lot about our profoundly influential perceptions of God and ourselves. We're not going to get scientific or terribly statistical with the results, but if you'd like a mere suggestion to what degree you may presently be exercising faith, consider the following.

- If you chose mostly *a*'s and *b*'s, you are probably exercising active and abundant faith.
- If you chose mostly *b*'s and *c*'s, you are probably exercising a moderate amount of faith. Perhaps you are young in the faith and on your way to developing lavish belief. Or you may have recently had a setback that caused you to be distrustful. Keep in mind that virtually anyone is capable of going from predominately *a* answers to *d* answers almost overnight due to a sudden change in circumstances and the ability to sense God's activity. Happily, the opposite is also true. We are never wise to judge others for a weakness of faith (see Rom. 14:1), because we have no idea what challenges we have ahead.
- If you chose mostly *c*'s and *d*'s, you may battle significant uncertainty and fear.

Wherever you found yourself in this exercise, what factors do you feel may have you there? Perhaps you recently witnessed a true miracle, so your faith is soaring, or you may recently have experienced something that left you with doubts and disappointment about God. Explain.